

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-20 are rejected.

Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-10 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,517,227. Additionally, claims 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 14-18 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,250,783. Both of the above rejections are "same invention" type double patenting rejections. Applicant has amended the present application to cancel claims 1-10 and claims 16-20 in response to the double patenting rejection, therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claims 1-10 and 16-20 be removed.

The Office Action further indicated that claims 11-15 of the present application were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,250,783. The applicant submits herewith the attached terminal disclaimer and the associated fee, which obviates the present rejection of claims 11-15. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the double patenting rejection of claims 11-15 has been overcome.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the above remarks, the double patenting rejections have been overcome and claims 11-15 are properly allowable, which allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the applicant's undersigned attorney at (248) 364-4300 if any unresolved matters remain.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 24, 2004

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